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TENTH ANNUAL BULB CATALOGUE FOR DEALERS

RECEIVED

★ MAR 11 1943 ★

U. S. Department of Agriculture



VELTHEIMIA VIRIDIFOLIA

1943
Las Positas Nursery
P. O. Box 750
Santa Barbara, California

**FOR
IMMEDIATE
DELIVERY
AND
SPRING
PLANTING**

BESSERA ELEGANS
CHLIDANTHUS FRAGRANS
GALTONIA CANDICANS
MILLA BIFLORA
NERINE BOWDENI
NERINE FILIFOLIA
SCHIZOSTYLIS COCCINEA
SCHIZOSTYLIS MRS. HEGERTY
SPREKELIA FORMOSISSIMA
ZEPHYRANTHES AJAX



*We are disposing of our
entire stock of the following
at greatly reduced prices*

ALSTOMERIA PULCHELLA
ARUM PALAESTINUM
BREVOORTIA IDA-MAIA
COLOCHORTUS BARBATUS

See inside for description.

AGAPANTHUS MOOREANUS MINOR

(*A. Africanus* var. *Mooreanus minor*)

An interesting dwarf form received from the United States Department of Agriculture. Has pleasing blue flowers in small umbels on a 1½ foot stem in early summer. Foliage not important and semi-deciduous in winter. Likes a good garden loam in partial shade. Fine for cutting. Four or five plants will do nicely in a 6 inch pot. Delivery winter.

10 cents each. Supply limited.

ALSTROMERIA

Plants from South America, useful for cutting and attractive in the garden producing great masses of showy and extremely colorful bloom. Belongs to the Amaryllis family and characterized by masses of thickish or tuberous roots attached to a crown from which arise leafy stems bearing clusters of interesting flowers. Most varieties bloom in the spring and flourish out of doors in mild climates. Indoors they grow readily in pots or pans. They do best in partial shade in a sandy loam with plenty of humus. Good drainage is essential. As the thick fleshy roots are easily damaged in lifting, it is best to leave the plants undisturbed. After flowering in the spring, water should be gradually withdrawn as the plant ripens and very little given until growth starts again in the fall.

A. chilensis

Very pretty Chilean species blooming in late spring. Flowers in pleasing shades from very light pink to orange, 1 inch across in a large umbel on stems 2 to 4 feet tall. Very good in the border and as a cut flower.

\$75.00 per 1000

A. pelegrina

Called "Lily of the Incas." Flowers dark rose with the inner petals heavily spotted with reddish purple, 1 to 1¼ inches across, in a large umbel on 14 to 18 inch stems. Very vigorous and showy both as a cut flower and in the border.

\$75.00 per 1000

A. ligtu angustifolia

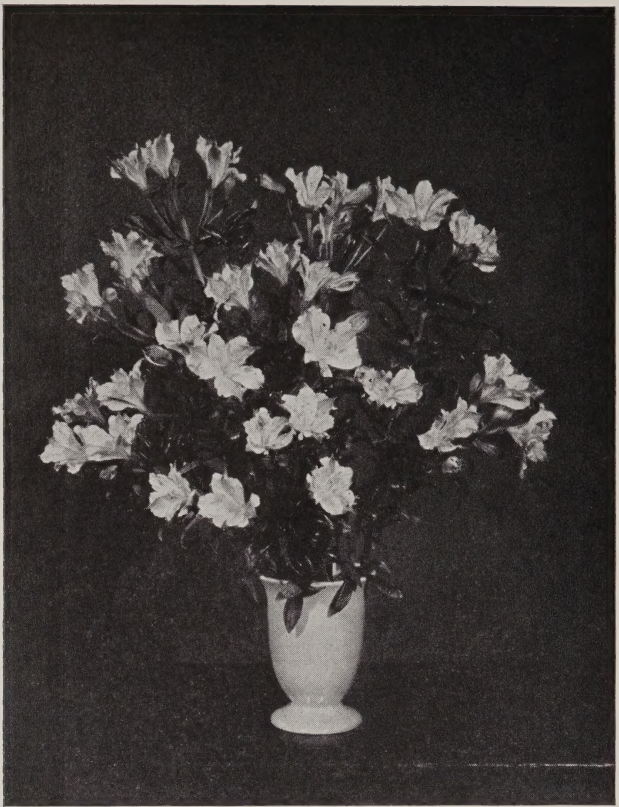
Flowers similar to Chilensis but larger. Stems about 3 feet tall and sturdy. Colors range through pink, orange, and flame, pinks predominating.

\$75.00 per 1000

A. ligtu Stinson

Same as *Angustifolia* except that it runs more to reds and orange.

\$75.00 per 1000



ALSTROMERIA PELEGRINA ALBA

A. pelegrina alba

"White Lily of the Incas." Very beautiful form of *A. pelegrina* with white unspotted flowers.

\$75.00 per 1000. Supply limited.

A. pulchella

Very vigorous species from Brazil blooming in early summer. Large clusters of dark red flowers tipped with green and with brown spots inside. Stems 2 to 6 feet tall. Its vigor and unusual color make a striking addition to the garden.

\$35.00 per 1000

ARUM PALAESTINUM

(*A. sanctum*)

Attractive bright green leaves are somewhat heart-shaped. Spathe is 6-8 inches long and deep blackish velvety purple on the inner surface. The spadix is also 6-8 inches long and blackish in color. Prefers well-drained sandy loam. Must be dried out or dug during dormant period in summer. Very interesting and unusual.

\$7.50 per 100

BESSERA ELEGANS

New introduction from Mexico. Dainty bell-shaped flowers, orange red outside, creamy white with orange stripe inside, with purplish stamens, hanging in an interesting umbel from the tip of a graceful wiry stem 18 to 24 inches tall. Foliage inconspicuous. Blooms freely from July to last of September. Cuts well and is exceptionally interesting in flower arrangements. A striking addition to the summer garden, suggesting as it does, the burst of a miniature rocket. Should be dug in winter.

\$7.50 per 100



BESSERA ELEGANS

BLETILLA

Terrestrial orchid from China and Japan. Easily grown in ordinary garden soil with plenty of moisture. Prefers half shade. Blooms in spring. *Hardy under all conditions.* Delivery late fall.

B. hyacinthina

Bright green plaited leaves 1 to 2 inches wide, 12 to 15 inches high. Three to five dainty orchid shaped lavender flowers on stems 10 to 15 inches tall. Cuts well.

\$20.00 per 100



BLETILLA HYACINTHINA

B. hyacinthina alba

Similar to *B. hyacinthina* except slightly smaller. Has bright clear white flowers.

\$25.00 per 100

BRODIAEA

Bulbs native to the Pacific coast, producing one or two long slender leaves near the ground and slender stiff stems bearing a head of attractive flowers of great lasting quality when cut. *All are hardy under most conditions*, naturalize easily in any well drained soil and are also very useful and easy to grow under glass when given the same treatment as freesias. All should be dried out and rested after flowering. OUR BULBS GROWN UNDER IDEAL CULTURAL CONDITIONS ARE SUPERIOR TO COLLECTED WILD BULBS.

B. Californica

A fine species and one of the largest. Stems $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet tall bearing loose heads of 10 to 20 flowers of a beautiful rose-purple. Each

spreading funnel-shaped blossom is 1½ to 2 inches long and the same in width. Blooms in late spring.

\$25.00 per 1000

B. capitata

Called California Hyacinth. Slender stems 12 to 18 in. high terminate in a close cluster of violet-blue flowers. In mild climates flowers in October, six weeks after planting, and remains in bloom till March or April, producing as many as 20 flower stems from one bulb. Especially desirable in the garden and under glass. Those who know it only as a wild flower will hardly recognize it under cultivation so greatly does it improve in the size and profusion of its bloom.

\$35.00 per 1000

B. coronaria

Aptly called Harvest Brodiaea because it blooms at harvest time in the hay fields. Pretty, bright violet-blue flowers are borne in a rather loose head of 6 to 15 on a stiff, slender stem about 18 inches tall. The spreading, funnel-shaped blossoms are about 1 inch across and the same in length. Blooms in late spring.

\$25.00 per 1000

B. ixioides

Known in California as Golden Star. Blooms in spring. Stem about 12 inches tall. Large umbel of bright yellow flowers with darker line on outside of petal. Gay and cheerful in the garden. Does well under glass.

\$25.00 per 1000

B. laxa

"Ithuriel's spear." Large cluster or umbel of bluish violet flowers on a two-foot stem. General appearance comparable to an Agapanthus flower. Blooms in spring. Likes partial shade.

\$25.00 per 1000

CALOSTEMMA PURPUREA

Rare Australian Amaryllis. Leaves linear produced after the flowers. These are dark purple, about ½ inch long, ten to twenty in an umbel on a slender 18 inch stalk. Unusual and attractive.

\$5.00 per 100

CHLIDANTHUS FRAGRANS

Bright yellow trumpet shaped flowers on stems 12 to 15 inches tall. Cuts well. Strong, pleasant fragrance. Bulbs must be kept dry in fall and winter. Prefers full sun in any garden soil. Blooms in early summer. Delivery late fall.

\$50.00 per 1000

CALOCHORTUS BARBATUS

Native of Mexico. Yellow, bell-like pendant flowers borne on a branched stem 12 to 18 inches high. Blossoms are $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch across. Likes sunny situation in well-drained loam. Should be planted in spring as soon as danger of heavy frost is over and lifted in early fall as soon as mature. Blooms in early summer. Dainty and attractive in the garden and in flower arrangements. Delivery early winter.

\$2.50 per 100. Supply limited.

CYRTANTHUS

Interesting and colorful group of Cape bulbs belonging to Amaryllis family. Blooms late winter and spring. Foliage nearly evergreen. Useful for rock gardens, borders and pot culture. Does best after becoming established and makes fine clumps if left undisturbed several years.

C. lutescens

Bright yellow tubular slightly funnel-shaped flowers two inches long on 12 to 14 inch stems. Six or eight narrow, bright green leaves about a foot long. Whole plant attractive and charming. Flowers useful for cutting.

\$7.50 per 100

C. Mackenii

Similar to *C. lutescens* except whole plant is a little stronger and flowers a clear ivory white.

\$7.50 per 100

GALTONIA CANDICANS

Cape bulb, commonly called Giant Summer Hyacinth. Produces a strong, erect stem rising four feet or more from the center of the foliage in summer and bearing at the top a splendid raceme of twenty or more large drooping pure white bell-shaped flowers. Extremely effective in groups in the perennial border. Should be dug in winter except in milder climates. Delivery late fall until early summer.

\$25.00 per 1000

GLADIOLUS TRISTIS CONCOLOR

Creamy white flowers with pleasant spicy fragrance at night or when placed in a darkened room. Stems 15 to 18 inches tall. Blooms in early spring. Excellent for cutting and forcing.

\$50.00 per 1000

GLADIOLUS TRISTIS HYBRIDS

A decided improvement on *G. tristis* var. *concolor*. Flowers resemble them, but slightly larger and many nearly white. Has the same pleasant spicy fragrance at night or when placed in a darkened

room. Stem 15 inches to 3 feet tall. Blooms earlier than *G. tristis* var. *concolor*. Very desirable for cutting and forcing.

\$6.00 per 100



GLADIOLUS WINTER FAIRY

GLADIOLUS WINTER FAIRY

The first of an entirely new strain of winter flowering gladiolus originated in our Nursery. Stands several degrees more frost and the flower stems are daintier and more graceful than the large flowered hybrids. Corms planted in September in Santa Barbara bloom by mid-December. Successive plantings will furnish flowers throughout February. Must be grown COOL under glass.

Winter Fairy has a wide open flower about 4 inches across. The three upper petals are a light salmon pink with a dark stripe in the center. The three lower petals are a lemon yellow tipped with light salmon pink. The throat has deep pink lines. There are three to five flowers open at one time on a 3 to 4 foot stem. The color combination and wavy petals make it an unusually attractive gladiolus.

\$75.00 per 1000

GLADIOLUS WINTER GLOW

The second of an entirely new strain of winter flowering Gladiolus originated in this Nursery. Stands several degrees more frost and the flower stems are daintier and more graceful than the large flowered hybrids. Corms planted in September in Santa Barbara bloom early in December about two weeks ahead of our Winter Fairy. Successive plantings will furnish flowers throughout February. Must be grown COOL under glass.

Winter Glow has open flowers about 4 inches across. The three upper petals are a deep salmon pink with a darker stripe in the center. The three lower petals are lemon yellow, the center one tipped with salmon pink. The throat has deep salmon pink lines. Strong stem three to four feet long bearing 3 to 5 flowers open at once. A little bolder in color than Winter Fairy.

\$75.00 per 1000

HABRANTHUS ROBUSTUS

(*Zephyranthes robusta*)

Large bright pink flowers appearing in late summer on 6 to 10 inch stems. Foliage during winter and spring. The flowers are large enough and stems long enough to be very useful for cutting. Its adaptability to culture in pots, rock gardens and borders makes it a very useful member of a well known group.

\$40.00 per 1000

HAEMANTHUS COCCINEUS

"Blood flower." One of a large group of tropical and sub-tropical bulbs of the *Amaryllis* family all of which are interesting and curious and some very showy. This variety has two bright green opposite leaves 3 to 5 inches wide and one to two feet long lying flat on the ground, growing in the winter. The single bright red flower appears in the fall before the leaves. It is a large cluster or umbel 2 to 4 inches across composed of many small flowers closely placed. Stem 6 to 9 inches high, green heavily spotted with red. General appearance striking and curious.

50c each. Supply limited.

IXIA

Recent introductions from South Africa with much better form and habit of growth are a fine addition to this group, of which some of the less desirable varieties have been available for many years.

These new kinds have the same cultural requirements as the older forms but are so superior that they will hardly be recognized as ixias and are sure to earn recognition when known.

I. Bloem Erf

Recently introduced hybrid from S. Africa, quite different from other ixias. Blooms in late spring. *Wiry stem 4 to 5 feet tall with 20 to 40 open flowers in a raceme at the top with several smaller flowering branches below.* Color varies from pure white through shades of pink overlaid with a bluish tinge. Excellent for cutting.

\$25.00 per 1000

I. incarnata

A distinct novelty recently introduced from S. Africa. Light blue, bell-shaped flowers on slender stems 18 to 24 inches tall. *Flowers do not close at night like other ixias.* Has a strong, very pleasant, freesia-like fragrance. Blooms early in Santa Barbara and cuts well.

\$3.50 per 100

LACHENALIA

Cape bulbs new to this country but long known in England under the name of Cape Cowslip. These bulbs are especially useful for florists' work as they can be grown in flats or in the field and shifted into pots or baskets when in full bloom. All of them do well out of doors in milder climates and are showy in beds, borders, and rock gardens and all are easily grown under glass. Culture similar to freesias.

Large flowered forms have been hybridized. They have from one to two dozen generally pendulous, fire-cracker-like flowers, three-quarters to one inch in length on stems 6 to 9 inches and bloom from late November to February depending on the time of planting and the variety.

Large flowered type

L. Ada Bryson

Flowers orange yellow, buds and end of spikes reddish. Blooms last of December. Leaves covered with reddish spots. Very bright and attractive. Especially useful for Christmas trade.

\$7.50 per 100

L. F. W. Burbridge

Flowers are a pleasing and unusual combination of red, yellow and chartreuse green tipped with maroon. Maroon spots on leaves and stem. Desirable for Christmas and early winter use.

\$7.50 per 100

L. Rector of Cawston

Flower scarlet, citron and green; free blooming. Two or three strap-shaped leaves with red spots.

\$7.50 per 100

LEUCOCORYNE IXIODES ODORATA

"Glory of the Sun." Recent introduction from Chile; flowering in spring. Heads of large, fragrant flowers, blue with white center and golden stamens, carried gracefully on a wiry stem 12 to 18 inches tall. Requires same culture as freesias. Its beauty and long lasting qualities as a cut flower and its ease of culture make it an outstanding new plant.

No. 1—\$50.00 per 1000

No. 2—\$40.00 per 1000

No. 3—\$30.00 per 1000



MILLA BIFLORA

MILLA BIFLORA

Recent introduction from Mexico where it is called Estrellitas, or Little Stars, by the country people. Showy white flowers, opening out flat, waxy in texture, about two inches in diameter, with six petals not quite separated. A faint stripe of soft apple green runs from tip to base on the outside of each petal. The stems are wiry, 12 to 18 inches tall, bearing two to seven flowers each. Foliage inconspicuous. Very free blooming from July to

September. Flowers cut well and have a pleasant lily-like fragrance. Most attractive both in arrangements and in the garden. The striking hexagonal shape of bud and flower and the regular striping lend a faintly modernistic note that is both attractive and unusual. Should be dug in winter except in milder climates. Delivery early winter.
\$35.00 per 1000

MORAEA

(bulbous)

An interesting group most of which are natives of South Africa, many being new to cultivation. Some are useful for cutting, others for the perennial garden and others still for pot culture and rock gardens. All listed below flower in spring. They show a wide range of colors and vary in height from six inches to six feet. On most of them the foliage is not important. Same culture as for freesias, except where noted.



MORAEA GLAUCOPIS

M. edulis

Flower stems about six inches; leaves long

and wiry. Blooms are a mixture of lilac, white and yellow. Very effective in clumps, providing a mass of color. Good also in pots or rock gardens.

\$5.00 per 100

M. glaucopis

(Iris pavonia)

Often called Peacock Iris. Flowers white or light blue with peacock eye at base of outer segments. Stems 10 to 15 inches high. Excellent for cutting, forcing, rock gardens and pots.

\$45.00 per 1000

M. isopetala

New introduction. Slender well branched plant 6 to 8 inches high. Flowers similar to M. polystachya but lavender in color. Most useful in pots and rock gardens.

\$30.00 per 1000



MORAEA POLYSTACHYA

M. polystachya

Slender plant 18 to 24 inches high with many wiry branches. Well covered with flowers looking at a distance like a close group of butterflies. The outer segments of the flowers are light mauve, penciled with Parma violet, with a bright yellow spot at the base, inner segments light mauve with little penciling. Starts flowering six weeks after planting and keeps on three to four months. Blooms can be had throughout the year in the milder climates by making successive plantings about every two months.

Very useful in the colder climates as a window pot plant in the winter and out of doors in the spring and summer as soon as danger of heavy frosts is over.

Planted in clumps it provides a mass of color over a long period and should be very useful in the border especially as a supplementary plant in iris gardens. Corms can be held in cold storage at 40 degrees to make successive plantings over a long period, although corms treated this way sometimes wait until their normal growing period before starting. Delivery August.

\$45.00 per 1000

M. ramosa

New introduction from South Africa. Stream-side plant which likes plenty of water and does not require a long dry rest period like many other bulbous plants. Blooms May and June. Flowers are an amber yellow and have a yellow oval surrounded by dark blue at base of the falls. Also has dark spots in the claw. Blossoms are about 2½ inches in diameter and resemble those of *M. polystachya* except in color.

Flower stalk is 4 to 6 feet high with many branches. Branchlets are thin and wiry enough to be almost invisible and the flowers look like yellow butterflies among the green branches of the flower stem. Individual blossoms open about 11 A.M. on a sunny morning and last twenty-four hours with a new group opening each day. Green leaves at the base are not conspicuous. Flowers cut well and make a dainty arrangement in themselves, with new flowers opening daily for a week or two after being cut. Plants are large enough to make bold accents in the border without crowding smaller plants and are a distinct addition to the garden. Delivery early summer.

\$5.00 per 100

M. ramosissima

Same as *M. ramosa* except in color and in blooming time, which is about one month later. The entire flower is amber yellow except for an oval at base of falls which is lemon yellow surrounded by a dark line. Also has dark spots in the claw. Delivery early summer.

\$5.00 per 100

M. tristis

Newly introduced from the Cape District. Will be useful mostly in rock gardens and pots, and is desirable for the very unusual colors of the flowers. Blossoms are 1 to 1½ inches in diameter, borne on a slender, well branched stem 1 to 1½ feet tall and are a striking combination of olive-green and grey with a small yellow, violet-edged blotch at the base of the outer segments. Blooms in spring.

\$5.00 per 100

NERINE

Very striking group of plants from South Africa belonging to the Amaryllis family. All bloom in late summer or fall, some with the foliage, others before it appears. All are easily grown indoors in pots, but can be grown in the open only in climates nearly free from frost.

They do best in a rich sandy loam with plenty of humus. Water should be applied sparingly when



NERINE BOWDENI

growth starts and heavily after foliage is well developed. Gradually withdraw water when leaves begin to turn yellow. Should be kept DRY and WARM after foliage dies until growth starts again. Blooms best if kept cool at night and given plenty of light and air during day. Flowers are fine for cutting. Bulbs should be covered only to the neck and can be left in the pot for several years. Best to remove old soil to bottom of bulb and add fresh each year about time growth starts. Good drainage essential.

N. Bowdeni

Blooms in fall. Flowers large, pink with rose-colored line down each petal, 7 to 10 in an umbel on 12 to 15 inch stem. Leaves are bright green and very attractive, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide and 12 to 18 inches long, start in early spring and last until late winter. Delivery late winter.

\$35.00 per 100

N. filifolia

Fall blooming with evergreen thread-like leaves 6 to 8 inches long. Flowers dark pink with narrow wavy segments pistil and stamens longer than segments, borne six to ten in an umbel on wiry stems 12 to 15 inches tall. Fine for cutting and a real find for rock gardens and edgings for beds. Delivery January to May.

\$25.00 per 1000

PASITHEA CAERULEA

An exceptionally pretty plant recently introduced from Chile. Many very bright deep blue flowers one inch in diameter and with yellow stamens on a 3 to 5 foot stem with many small branches.

Green foliage not very conspicuous. Flowers retain their color for several days after closing. Blooms from late winter to late spring in Santa Barbara. Very useful in the garden and as a cut flower.

Should be planted where it can remain undisturbed. Plant consists of a modified crown and small round tubers joined together and to the crown by very thin, fibrous roots. New and old plants should be started in early fall and kept well watered until late in spring. Must be thoroughly dried out during the summer. Does best in well-drained loam soil. Requires very little fertilizer. Can also be grown in large pots under glass, but **MUST BE KEPT AT 45 to 50 DEGREES AT NIGHT** Small dormant plants for delivery in late summer.

\$5.00 per 100

SCHIZOSTYLIS

Kaffir Lily from S. Africa. Rhizomatous roots. Not hardy but soon makes fine clumps in milder climates, blooming in late summer and fall. May be lifted and potted in late summer and, by retarding, flowers may be had over a long period. Likes partial shade and plenty of moisture during the summer. Cuts well. Delivery February to May.



SCHIZOSTYLIS MRS. HEGERTY

S. coccinea

A handsome plant with bright green leaves 15 to 20 inches high and 2 ft. spikes with 8 to 10 crimson-scarlet flowers 1½ to 2 inches in diameter. Fine for cutting and very useful in the border because it blooms when other perennials are scarce.

\$5.00 per 100

S. Mrs. Hegerty

Recent introduction from Ireland. Similar to coccinea in every respect except the color of the flowers. These are a true, clear pink, a color that is seldom found in the garden in the fall.

\$5.00 per 100



SPREKELIA FORMOSISSIMA

SPREKELIA FORMOSISSIMA

(Jacobean Lily).

One of the most showy of the Amaryllids. Flowers large, crimson of a striking wasp-waisted shape. Summer blooming.

\$7.50 per 100

STERNBERGIA LUTEA

Native of Syria and Palestine. Believed to be the "Lily of the field" of the scriptures. Large bright yellow flowers over two inches long in September and October. Leaves about one foot. Useful in pots or in the border.

\$5.00 per 100

VELTHEIMIA VIRIDIFOLIA

Handsome Cape bulb. Forty to sixty reddish tubular flowers $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long hanging closely from the tip of a stem 15 to 18 inches tall rising from the center of a rosette of showy bright green shiny leaves 9 to 12 inches long with wavy edges. Its bold habit and beautiful foliage make it especially useful as a pot plant. Excellent in garden in mild climates and easy to grow under cool glass. Blooms in midwinter.

No. 1—\$25.00 per 100

No. 2—\$20.00 per 100

WATSONIA DAZZLER

Hybrid recently introduced from Australia. Brilliant orange red flowers on slightly curved stems 3 feet tall. In milder climates this Watsonia is practically evergreen and blooms profusely during

spring and summer, with scattered blooms the rest of the year. Good for cutting and an outstanding addition to the perennial border.

\$40.00 per 1000

ZEPHYRANTHES AJAX

A Zephyr lily. Similar to *Z. candida*, but having light yellow flowers on 6 to 8 inch stems. Blooms several times a year if allowed to dry out and then watered. Excellent for pots, rock gardens and borders.

\$35.00 per 1000



TO DEALERS:

All of these bulbs have been grown by us in ideal soil and climatic conditions. Nothing is offered that has not been under our close observation for several years. In reading our suggestions as to culture, use, hardiness, etc., it should be remembered that, unless otherwise definitely stated, we refer to climatic conditions similar to those of Southern California. Any additional information you may wish to assist you in presenting these bulbs to your customers will be gladly furnished.

It is our policy to offer bulbs at a price that is consistent with the cost of producing them. We have tried to price our material fairly. In case, however, our prices are thought to be out of line in any instance, we should be glad to be advised and given an opportunity to adjust them.

Bulbs will be ready for delivery about August first, unless otherwise stated, and will be shipped at buyer's sole risk.

As we do no retail business, prices quoted herein are for dealers only, F. O. B. Santa Barbara, and are payable 90 days after delivery to the carrier for shipment. Thereafter interest will be chargeable at 6%. We give any number of bulbs at the rate quoted.

While we use great care to ensure that we describe and name our material correctly and to see that only material of the best quality is sent out in response to orders, we give no warranty, express or implied, as to description, quality, productiveness or any other matter of any seeds, bulbs, or plants we send out, and we will not be in any way responsible for the crop. We quote subject to immediate acceptance, stocks unsold, confirmation of orders, stenographic errors and omissions, delays and contingencies beyond our control.

Many prices much reduced this year.